

What is claimed is:

1. An information gathering system in an event hall which performs transmission and reception of questionnaire information between an information gathering server for gathering said questionnaire information based on a questionnaire carry-out schedule for each event hall and contents of a questionnaire and portable user terminals carried by persons who have entered an event hall, has area terminals provided area by area in each event hall for relaying said questionnaire information, performs transmission and reception of said questionnaire information between said information gathering server and said area terminals over an Internet, and performs transmission and reception of said questionnaire information between said area terminals and said portable user terminals by close-range wireless communication.

2. An information gathering system in an event hall comprising:

portable user terminals carried by persons who have entered an event hall;

area terminals provided area by area in said event hall;

an information gathering server;

a client terminal;

a network which connects said area terminals, said client terminal and said information gathering server;

a device which allows said information gathering server to register hall-by-hall/area-by-area questionnaire

information including event halls and areas targeted for a questionnaire, a questionnaire start date, a questionnaire end date and contents of said questionnaire based on questionnaire request information sent from said client terminal;

a device which allows said information gathering server to transmit said contents of said questionnaire to associated area terminals over said network when said questionnaire start date has come;

a device by which an area terminal having received said contents of said questionnaire transfers said contents of said questionnaire to those portable user terminals which are located in the same area by close-range wireless communication;

a device which allows each of said portable user terminals having received said contents of said questionnaire to input an answer to said questionnaire and transmit said answer to said questionnaire to that area terminal in the same area by close-range wireless

communication; and

a device which allows said area terminal having received said answer to said questionnaire to affix a hall/area ID and a present date to said answer to said questionnaire and transmit that answer to said questionnaire to said information gathering server over said network, and allows said information gathering server to store those pieces of information.

3. An information gathering system in an event hall

comprising:

portable user terminals carried by persons who have entered an event hall;

5 a hall terminal provided at a gift hand-over place in said event hall;

area terminals provided area by area in said event hall;

an information gathering server;

a client terminal;

10 a network which connects said hall terminal, said area terminals, said client terminal and said information gathering server;

15 a device which allows said information gathering server to register hall-by-hall/area-by-area questionnaire information including event halls and areas targeted for a questionnaire, a questionnaire start date, a questionnaire end date and contents of said questionnaire based on questionnaire request information sent from said client terminal;

20 a device which allows said information gathering server to transmit said contents of said questionnaire to associated area terminals over said network when said questionnaire start date has come;

25 a device by which an area terminal having received said contents of said questionnaire transfers said contents of said questionnaire to those portable user terminals which are located in the same area by close-range wireless communication;

a device which allows each of said portable user terminals having received said contents of said questionnaire to input an answer to said questionnaire, a name and a personal identification number and transmit said answer to said questionnaire as answer information to that area terminal in the same area by close-range wireless communication;

a device which allows said area terminal having received said answer information to said questionnaire to affix a hall/area ID and a present date to said answer to said questionnaire and transmit that answer to said questionnaire to said information gathering server over said network, and allows said information gathering server to store those pieces of information;

a device which allows said information gathering server to draw a gift getting person from those persons who have answered said questionnaire when said questionnaire end date has comes, transmit the name of said gift getting person to that area terminal which corresponds to said gift getting person over said network and transmit combination information of said name of said gift getting person and said personal identification number to that hall terminal which corresponds to said gift getting person over said network; and

a device which allows said area terminal having received said name of said gift getting person to transfer said name of said gift getting person to those portable user terminals which are located in the same area by close-range

wireless communication.

4. The information gathering system according to claim 2, wherein said contents of said questionnaire differ from one area to another.

5 5. The information gathering system according to claim 3, wherein said contents of said questionnaire differ from one area to another.

6. The information gathering system according to claim 2, further comprising a device which allows said
10 information gathering server to transmit said answer information to said questionnaire to said client terminal over said network and execute a charge settling process when said questionnaire end date has come.

7. The information gathering system according to
15 claim 3, further comprising a device which allows said information gathering server to transmit said answer information to said questionnaire to said client terminal over said network and execute a charge settling process when said questionnaire end date has come.

20 8. The information gathering system according to claim 1, wherein said by close-range wireless communication is Bluetooth communication or infrared communication.

9. The information gathering system according to claim 2, wherein said by close-range wireless communication
25 is Bluetooth communication or infrared communication.

10. The information gathering system according to claim 3, wherein said by close-range wireless communication is Bluetooth communication or infrared communication.

11. An information gathering server comprising:
portable user terminals carried by persons who have
entered an event hall;

area terminals provided area by area in said event
5 hall;

a client terminal;

a network which connects said area terminals, said
client terminal and said information gathering server;

a device which registers hall-by-hall/area-by-area
10 questionnaire information including event halls and areas
targeted for a questionnaire, a questionnaire start date, a
questionnaire end date and contents of said questionnaire
based on questionnaire request information sent from said
client terminal;

15 a device which transmits said contents of said
questionnaire to associated area terminals when said
questionnaire start date has come;

a device which receives and stores an answer to said
questionnaire, a hall/area ID of said area terminal and a
20 present date from said area terminal; and

a device which transmits said answer to said
questionnaire to said client terminal and performs a charge
settling process when said questionnaire end date has come.

12. An information gathering server comprising:

25 portable user terminals carried by persons who have
entered an event hall;

a hall terminal provided at a gift hand-over place in
said event hall;

area terminals provided area by area in said event hall;

a client terminal;

a network which connects said hall terminal, said area
5 terminals, said client terminal and said information gathering server;

a device which registers hall-by-hall/area-by-area
questionnaire information including event halls and areas
targeted for a questionnaire, a questionnaire start date, a
10 questionnaire end date and contents of said questionnaire
based on questionnaire request information sent from said
client terminal;

a device which transmits said contents of said
questionnaire to associated area terminals when said
15 questionnaire start date has come;

a device which receives and stores an answer to said
questionnaire, a name, a personal identification number, a
hall/area ID of said area terminal and a present date from
said area terminal;

20 a device which draws a gift getting person from those
persons who have answered said questionnaire when said
questionnaire end date has comes, transmits the name of said
gift getting person to that area terminal which corresponds
to said gift getting person and transmits combination
25 information of said name of said gift getting person and
said personal identification number to that hall terminal
which corresponds to said gift getting person; and

a device which transmits said answer to said

questionnaire to said client terminal and performs a charge settling process when said questionnaire end date has come.

13. The information gathering server according to claim 11, wherein said contents of said questionnaire differ
5 from one area to another.

14. The information gathering server according to claim 12, wherein said contents of said questionnaire differ from one area to another.

15. An information gathering method in a system
10 having portable user terminals carried by persons who have entered an event hall, area terminals provided area by area in said event hall, an information gathering server, a client terminal and a network which connects said area terminals, said client terminal and said information
15 gathering server, comprising the steps of:

allowing said information gathering server to register hall-by-hall/area-by-area questionnaire information including event halls and areas targeted for a questionnaire, a questionnaire start date, a questionnaire end date and
20 contents of said questionnaire based on questionnaire request information sent from said client terminal;

allowing said information gathering server to transmit said contents of said questionnaire to associated area terminals over said network when said questionnaire start
25 date has come;

allowing an area terminal having received said contents of said questionnaire to transfer said contents of said questionnaire to those portable user terminals which

are located in the same area by close-range wireless communication;

allowing each of said portable user terminals having received said contents of said questionnaire to input an answer to said questionnaire and transmit said answer to said questionnaire to that area terminal in the same area by close-range wireless communication;

allowing said area terminal having received said answer to said questionnaire to affix a hall/area ID and a present date to said answer to said questionnaire and transmit that answer to said questionnaire to said information gathering server over said network, and allowing said information gathering server to store those pieces of information; and

allowing said information gathering server to transmit said answer to said questionnaire to said client terminal over said network and performing a charge settling process when said questionnaire end date has come.

16. An information gathering method in a system having portable user terminals carried by persons who have entered an event hall, a hall terminal provided at a gift hand-over place in said event hall, area terminals provided area by area in said event hall, an information gathering server, a client terminal and a network which connects said hall terminal, said area terminals, said client terminal and said information gathering server, comprising the steps of:

allowing said information gathering server to register hall-by-hall/area-by-area questionnaire information

including event halls and areas targeted for a questionnaire, a questionnaire start date, a questionnaire end date and contents of said questionnaire based on questionnaire request information sent from said client terminal;

5 allowing said information gathering server to transmit said contents of said questionnaire to associated area terminals over said network when said questionnaire start date has come;

10 allowing an area terminal having received said contents of said questionnaire to transfer said contents of said questionnaire to those portable user terminals which are located in the same area by close-range wireless communication;

15 allowing each of said portable user terminals having received said contents of said questionnaire to input an answer to said questionnaire, a name and a personal identification number and transmit said answer to said questionnaire as answer information to that area terminal in the same area by close-range wireless communication;

20 allowing said area terminal having received said answer information to said questionnaire to affix a hall/area ID and a present date to said answer to said questionnaire and transmit that answer to said questionnaire to said information gathering server over said network, and
25 allows said information gathering server to store those pieces of information;

 allowing said information gathering server to draw a gift getting person from those persons who have answered

said questionnaire when said questionnaire end date has comes, transmit the name of said gift getting person to that area terminal which corresponds to said gift getting person over said network and transmit combination information of said name of said gift getting person and said personal identification number to that hall terminal which corresponds to said gift getting person over said network;

allowing said area terminal having received said name of said gift getting person to transfer said name of said gift getting person to those portable user terminals which are located in the same area by close-range wireless communication; and

allowing said information gathering server to transmit said answer to said questionnaire to said client terminal over said network and performing a charge settling process when said questionnaire end date has come.

17. A program which is adapted to an information gathering server in a system having portable user terminals carried by persons who have entered an event hall, area terminals provided area by area in said event hall, an information gathering server, a client terminal and a network which connects said area terminals, said client terminal and said information gathering server, and which allows a computer to realize:

a function of registering hall-by-hall/area-by-area questionnaire information including event halls and areas targeted for a questionnaire, a questionnaire start date, a questionnaire end date and contents of said questionnaire

based on questionnaire request information sent from said client terminal;

a function of transmitting said contents of said questionnaire to associated area terminals when said questionnaire start date has come;

a function of receiving and storing an answer to said questionnaire, a hall/area ID of said area terminal and a present date from said area terminal; and

a function of transmitting said answer to said questionnaire to said client terminal and performing a charge settling process when said questionnaire end date has come.

18. A program which is adapted to an information gathering server in a system having portable user terminals carried by persons who have entered an event hall, a hall terminal provided at a gift hand-over place in said event hall, area terminals provided area by area in said event hall, an information gathering server, a client terminal and a network which connects said hall terminal, said area terminals, said client terminal and said information gathering server, and which allows a computer to realize:

a function of registering hall-by-hall/area-by-area questionnaire information including event halls and areas targeted for a questionnaire, a questionnaire start date, a questionnaire end date and contents of said questionnaire based on questionnaire request information sent from said client terminal;

a function of transmitting said contents of said

questionnaire to associated area terminals when said
questionnaire start date has come;

5 a function of receiving and stores an answer to said
questionnaire, a name, a personal identification number, a
hall/area ID of said area terminal and a present date from
said area terminal;

10 a function of drawing a gift getting person from those
persons who have answered said questionnaire when said
questionnaire end date has comes, transmitting the name of
said gift getting person to that area terminal which
corresponds to said gift getting person and transmitting
combination information of said name of said gift getting
person and said personal identification number to that hall
terminal which corresponds to said gift getting person; and

15 a function of transmitting said answer to said
questionnaire to said client terminal and performing a
charge settling process when said questionnaire end date has
come.